



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2633
Examiner: Kinfe Michael Negash

In Re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Applicants : Yoshihiro NAKAHIRA

Appln. No. : 09/612,304

Conf. No. : 8730

Filed : July 7, 2000

For : NODE DEVICE AND OPTICAL PATH
SETTING METHOD (As amended)

Atty. Dkt. : 32011-164846

RECEIVED

AUG 04 2004

Technology Center 2600

RULE 116
AMENDMENT

26694
U.S. PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE

July 30, 2004

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

MAIL STOP NON-FEE PAYMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Introductory Comments

In reply to the Final Office Action dated **02 June 2004**, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Reply.

- **Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 2 of this paper.
- **Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 and are reflected in the listing of the claims.
- **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.

AFM 8/11/04
8/11/04
Dobbs

Not approved
for entry
8/23/04